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which the question has been put by the hon. Member, he seems to have some valuable information in his custody with reference to certain persons. If only he passes that information to us, we will be very much obliged to him."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions Nos. 362 and 363 may be taken up together as they relate to the same subject. The same question came up for discussion in this House before and I allowed enough time for it."

Crossword competitions.

* 362 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of crosswords and similar competitions in our State;

(*b*) whether the Government get any income from these competitions either by way of tax or by way of licence fees;

(*c*) whether the Government are examining the question of preventing these competitions; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) Government do not have the information required.

" (*b*) No.

" (*c*) & (*d*) The question of undertaking legislation in the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India."

* 363 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is prevalence of crosswords and similar other competitions in the State on a large scale; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check them or to put an end to them ?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The question of undertaking legislation in the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" In view of the fact that the continuance of crossword competitions is causing definite harm to the people, will the Government issue instructions at least to their officers and highly-placed gentlemen like the Mayor of Madras and the Hon. the Chairman of the Madras Legislative Council not to take part in functions arranged for distributing prizes in crossword competitions? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Every effort is made to book the culprits concerned."